THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 11th December 1952.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, Madras, at nine of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. SPEAKER :—" A large number of questions are placed before the House. I will therefore allow one or two supplementaries on each question and then pass on to the next question."

Recruitment of Backward Class Christians to Public Services.

* 387 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member Sri M. Rajeswara Rao, is not in his place, the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the nature of Christians classified as Backward Classes for the purposes of 25 per cent reservation as per the latest Government Order regarding recruitment to Public Services?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Persons belonging to the Statutory Scheduled Castes who are converted to Christianity will be deemed to belong to the Backward Classes for purposes of Reservation of appointments in the public services. This will not apply to those who are born in Christianity whatever their ancestry may be."

Construction of sand vents in the channel to Maradi tank at Uppiliapuram village.

* 388 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the ryots of Maradi village, Tiruchirappalli district, deposited Rs. 400 into Turaiyur Sub-Treasury on 8th January 1943, on the request of the Government as their contribution towards the cost of construction of some sand vents, etc., in the channel taking water to Maradi tank, at S. No. 120 of Uppiliapuram village ;

(*b*) why the proposed construction is delayed all these years;

(*c*) what is the estimated cost of the proposed construction: and

(*d*) how long it will take for the Government to commence and finish the same?

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THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The proposal was dropped in 1944 on account of the objections raised by the persons interested in direct irrigation under the channel at Uppiliapuram, and seems to have been revived later.

" (*c*) Rupees 7,550.

" (*d*) It cannot be said now when the work will be taken up for execution, as the matter is still under consideration."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" Sir may I know, what is the total cost of construction as estimated in the year 1943 and how much have the Government spent annually for removing the deposit of silt from the channel during the flood times? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Sir, the scheme was estimated to cost Rs. 3,500 in the year 1941. I have no information as to how much the Public Works Department is spending for the removal of the silt."

Reconstitution of the State Harijan Welfare Committee.

* 391 *Q.*—SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state why the Government have not constituted the Provincial Harijan Board?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The term of the present State Harijan Welfare Committee expires on the 16th August 1953. However, the question of reconstituting the Committee is under consideration and will be finalised shortly."

SRI A.S. SAHAJANANDA :—" Sir, பழைய போர்டுசெய்த தீர்மானங்களையெல்லாம் மந்திரியார் அவர்கள் நிறைவேற்றுவாரா ? "

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" The hon. Member wants to know whether the Government have put through all the schemes and suggestions of the existing Committee."

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The recommendations of the State Harijan Welfare Committee are given due consideration by the Government from time to time."

SRI P. G. MANICKAM :—" Will the Government consider taking one Harijan from each district into the Committee? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, that will make the strength of the Committee 26. The present strength is only 22. I am afraid it is not possible for the Government to organize it on a districtwar basis."

SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM :—" What are the functions of the Committee? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" They are well known. They are given in the rules constituting the Committee."